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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1904.

The Baltimore Fire.

Greatest Disaster of the Kind Since Chicago Was Burned.

Yesterday morning fire broke out in the heart of the business district of Baltimore, resulting in a conflagration the like of which has not been seen in this country in thirty years. Not since the great Chicago fire of 1871 has any such wholesale wiping out of the wealth of a city by fire been known in the United States.

The money loss is estimated at \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000, but though the latter estimate may cover the netual loss in dollars and cents, the ectual misfortune to the city, the setback which business will suffer, the incenvenience and delay and disturbance of business relations, must mevitably amount to a much greater much effect on the result. The presloss than can now be measured. A similar destruction of property in New York or Chicago would mean far less than the practical crippling of the business enterprise of the smaller city, since Baltimore is, and has been almost from the beginning of its history, a center of trade, and the deaffect a large territory outside the city amits.

Baltimore is an historic city. She has taken just pride in being one of the few cities in America with hispicturesque, cannot be reproduced.

This is the dark side of the picture. with Galveston; and it will undoubtedly be so with Baltimore.

Municipal Government.

Some of the Ways in Which It Is Done in Berlin.

ferent public to suggestions that much of the time. There are thou-American municipal government is sands of farmers in the South who not all that it should be, is, "How can raise practically nothing but cotten, it be made any better?" People who just as there are thousands in the think seriously that it is impossible to West who raise nothing but wheat govern a big city well are invited to These Southern farmers depend on read an essay by Mark Twain, which the cross-roads store for everything, is not in the list of best selling books, and if the cotton crop fails they have and has not been published in an edi- to go in debt for the next year's suption de luxe, but deserves to be. It is plies. This state of things is good for an essay on Berlin, and may be found nobody but the cross-roads store keepin the collection of short articles er. Moreover, a one-industry section known as "The Million Pound Bank is usually in a rather low state of Note."

genial philosopher of horse sense is men and keep wages down. A farm. to be hoped so. entertaining and instructive. Mr. ing region in which the farmer de-Clemens grew up in the Middle West, pends on one or two products for his he has lived in more than one of our ready money, and raises most of the cities, and he knows, probably, all that things necessary for sustenance on the there is to know about the discom- place, is likely to come out better at much of their own speech, and would forts and abuses which a combination the end of a century than one which be easily learned by Orientals. But if of carelessness, ignorance, and graft stakes its whole available wealth on can inflict on a community. This the price of a single commodity. knowledge undoubtedly added fervor To take a practical example, here is to his admiration of Berlin.

pal building inspectors. get tired of coming, but the American his wife and daughters attend to the the sea serpent.

tax would be paid without delay.

Cotton Madness.

Elsewhere.

Mingled delight and apprehension ney be discerned among thoughtful Southern folk, as a result of the present soaring price of cotton. The "Manufacturers' Record," of Baltimore, says that there is danger of the speculative spirit which has been aroused throughout the South becoming a great curse. The "Atlanta Journal" says that there are thousands of people in the South today who are cotton-mad. The "Raleigh News and Observer," on the other hand, says that the low price of cotton in past years has been the greatest hindrance to the material development of the South, and that it is better for the South to raise 8,000,000 bales at 15 cents a pound than 12,000,000 bales at 7 to 8 cents a pound. This paper con- that the probable gold product of the siders the raising of cotton in Africa as a "bugaboo."

There is much to be said on both sides of this question, and probably nothing which can be said will have ent high price of cotton is likely to have two results; it will contribute to the immediate material prosperity of the South, enabling many owners of cotton plantations to enlarge their borders; and it will give England and Germany an incentive to try raising cotton on their own account. Of the struction of her business houses must two, Germany is the more formidable competitor. Cotton plantations in Africa might, one of these days, be semething more than a "bugaboo."

If, as the Raleigh paper which has

been quoted says, the farmer of the torical traditions associated with near- South will raise a smaller crop of cotly every street and half her buildings. ton, and give more time to diversified The greedy flames have destroyed his- agriculture, because of the high toric structures which cannot possibly prices, that would be a solid benefit to be replaced, and though the burnt dis. the South; but the chances are about trict will in time be rebuilt, the fa- a hundred to one that he will do nothmiliar atmosphere of Baltimore, so ing of the kind. Instead, he will give essentially Southern, so individual, so all his time and all his spare cash to raising more cotton, that being the most profitable erop; and he will de-The bright side may be found, per. pend on the West and North for his Laps, in the warm sympathy which other supplies. Did the discovery of will be shown to the stricken city, the oil on a man's land in Pennsylvania readiness to lend all possible aid which cause him to give his time to some is so characteristically American, and other industry, or did it cause him to the indomitable energy and public make all the money he could out of tration, but agarist its perversion. spirit of the American business man, oil? If it were suddenly to be found which, in every case of such disaster, that the price of wheat was going up has caused a new city to arise on the 100 per cent, would that cause the A New Plan Advanced for Unifying ruins of the old, a permanent proof wheat farmer to cut down his grain of the fact that human courage and produce and raise something else? optimism can rise superior even to the Finally, did the ante-bellum price of fates themselves. It was so with Chi- cotton cause the South to develop dicago; it was so with Boston; it was so versified industries, or did it lead to a other artificial dialects seem to be general conviction that cotton was king, that the world could not get along without it, and that other things were not worth attention?

The one-crop system is the cause of more trouble to the farmer than any other feature of our agricultural system, and it is one great reason for The favorite response of the indif- his being at the bottom of the heap so

civilization, for the reason that women The view of Berlin taken by this and children compete directly with

one farmer who has land on which he at any rate, are likely to take this One significant thing which he says can, in a good year, raise a good crop of the city is that its building inspec- of hay or wheat, and pasturage which new language for the purpose of contors inspect a building while it is go- will accommodate a herd of cattle. If versing with the inhabitants of ing up; they find it cheaper than to he gives all his time to either the wheat Kamtchatka, unless it is absolutely wait until it falls down. This state- or the cattle he is at the mercy of necessary. ment contains a useful hint to munici- luck in his farming operations. If he raises both he is reasonably certain that when he has to die and leave his In another place he explains the of some ready money. If, however, fortune, more than one person will be way in which laws are enforced in he must pay out this ready money for surprised. If he were to take it with Berlin, by citing an incident in his store supplies he will have his nose to own experience. He was required to the grindstone all the time. But supget a passport for a Swiss maid trav- pose, instead of depending on others, cling with his family. After the first he raises his own chickens, beef, fruit, much of the popular sympathy for Japan two or three visits of the policeman vegetables, draught animals, and has who came to attend to this matter, a timber land from which he can get Isle of the Dragon-Fly. tariff of five or ten cents was charged fuel or lumber, directly or by some exfor each visit. The policeman did not change system. Suppose, moreover,

This also contains a valuable hint. exchanging their surplus products for The average American will pay any whatever can be bought at the nearest sort of tax if he is bothered enough store. This farmer will come out, at about it. If he were consistently and the end of the year, with a life of persistently followed up by the person hard work behind him, but he will whose duty it was to collect a triffing have a farm and some money to show oum due the government, the govern- for it, his children will know how to ment would get that sum; and the do many things which no manual next time such a matter came up the training school could teach them bet training school could teach them better, his food will be wholesome—if it is not, that is his own fault, and not the fault of some far-off dealer in the fault of some far-off One-Crop Agriculture in the South and have been sure, through his whole

ciever men who control the market. Increase of Gold Product. Bryan's Arguments of Eight Years Ago

in the Light of Today.

one crop, life is a continual gambling

operation, in which he stakes his time,

money and energy against the wits of

When William Jennings Bryan as putting out his arguments for free coinage of fifty-cent dollars at the immutable and eternal ratio of 16 liferous ores, economic geology of nonto 1, he predicient a great crisis due to many things have happened. Among ably no equal in the quality or the them is the everthrow of his theory rapidity of its work. world was inadequate to support circulation. The demand for gold has acted on the yellow metal quite the ame as demand would act on the supply of any other product. The pro duction of gold has been marvelously increased. More rich "strikes" o gold have been reported as search was stimulated. For example, within the past week gold mines of great re ources have been opened up in Trinity county, Cal., and new mining mills will soon begin to crush the ore. More than this, there has been wonderful progress in the working of ores; s that ores that were thrown away be cause they could not be profitably werked are now worked with great profit, while the richer ores are fabu-

ously profitable. Since Bryan's prediction of adversity the country has become the greatest money distributing center of the globe, and has become the greates commercial power as well as the greatest domestic power. By adhering to the policy of sound and ample money he country has gove on from one degree of prosperity to another, so that today the only danger in our pathway is the danger which comes from the abuse of highly concentrated power in the hands of mass and class. And Roosevelt stands not against concer

The Universal Language.

Human Speech.

be made the universal language, since making so little headway. This recalls the old epigram that the Ro mans had time to conquer the world, because they were born with the knowledge of those nouns which have their accusative in "im." The advocate of the scheme, however, makes haste to explain that he does not mean the Latin of Cicero and Virgil, of Horace and Livy; nor even the Latin of the Middle Ages, which came as near being the universal language as any thing could, being used by all educated men. He means the Latin which was the common speech, which was taught by Roman soldiers to the unwashed barbarians whom they encountered, and which rapidly incorporated itself even into dialects so primitive as those of Britain and Gaul. He says that this language is much simpler than that with which we all wrestled in our youthful days. It is

The idea, therefore, is that a sort f pigeon-Latin could be devised. which would be intelligible to all European peoples from its similarity to we are going to disregard grammatical forms, and talk pigeon-anything, why not pigeon-English? Americans, view. They are too busy to learn a

Russell Sage is reported to have said him or not die at all, they would be

It would be interesting to know how against Russia is due to the fact that bathing is the universal custom in the

Mr. Bryan still believes in the octopus as firmly as a Jersey hotelkeeper in

got tired of seeing him about. The dairy work and poultry farm, and the passport was obtained. The lighter work of the vegetable garden, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY ENLARGES ITS SCOPE

Survey Now Divided Into Branches—Mineral Resources of Alaska Investigated by Commission.

business career, of at least enough to July 1, 1902, to July 1, 1903, for the work addition to this, \$14,000 was approprithat. To the farmer who raises only

The Survey as now organized is divided into five branches: the geologic, given in the report. topographic, hylographic, publication, and administration

Geologic Branch.

The geologic branch includes the diphysics and chemistry. The administra-tion of the division of geology and pale-somewhat detailed account of the ontology was in the hands of the geologist in charge, while scientific super-vision rested with the chiefs of sections. The various sections included those of areal geology, Pleistocene geology, pre-Cambrian and metamorphic geology, petrology, economic geology of metal-

IN SUNDRY CIVIL BILL

MONEY FOR USE HERE

metalliferous minerals, and paleon-

tology. A new section was created dur-

EXAMINATIONS BRING

Two Local Appropriations Likely to Be A Score of Naval Classmen Thrown Out Included With Measure.

Two Government improvements of lo-

a mailbag repair shop and other uses. ensideration for so long a time that action is now deemed imperative. No atempt will be made to secure the money by separate bills. The plan most likely to be determined on is to include the wo amounts in the sundry civil approoriation bill. The amount to be appro oriated at this time for the Hail of Records is half a million dollars, with a pro-viso that the total cost of the improvement shall not exceed two millions. the property to be purchased adjacent to the present postoffice premises an amount approximating \$200,000 will be required.

VICE REGENT TO MEET ARMY AND NAVY CHAPTER

Army and Navy Chapter of the D. A. t. will meet with the vice regent, Mrs. Winston, at the Portner at 4 o'clock.

beef or canned goods—and he will enlarged the scope of their work and geologic work allotments were made for have been sure, through his whole increased their activities during the last eat, because his farm will give him of which Congress had appropriated the lated for the paleontologic work of six sum of \$1,377,470.

Mineral Resources.

Under authority of an act of Congress making an appropriation of \$60,000 for a continuation of the investigation of visions of geology, and paleontology, of the mineral resources of Alaska, five mining and mineral resources, and of parties were actively engaged in field somewhat detailed account of the investigations made by these parties is

given in the report.

The principal work of the division of mining and mineral resources is the preparation of the annual report on the although considerable time is devoted to request of the Director of the Census, the failure of money to be cheap and plenty. Since Bryan's prediction petrographic laboratory maintained in connection with this section has probwere transmitted through the Geological Survey to the Census Office, thus af A new feature of the work of the di- fording both offices the benefit of co vision of geology and paleontology was operation.

GRIEF TO MIDSHIPMEN

for Deficiency.

Semi-annual examinations just com cal interest which have long been awaited by Washingtonians, will doubt- grief to many midshipmen. Seven members be included in coming legislation by Congress. These are the first appro-priation for the Hall of Records and the ed back into the third class. Seventeen ssignment of a sum sufficient for pur- members of the second class were found chasing the block of ground south of to be below grade, and more than a the Postoffice Department building for score of members of this class and the fourth class were asked to resign, be-The midshipmen whose resignations have been asked are:

Third class-W. Lege Burnett, of Georgetown, Ga.; Cassius M. Cade, jr., Shawnee, Okla.; W. G. Markland, Penn Yan, N. Y., and J. A. Sislebee, Elmira

delphia, Pa.; John Borland, New York city; B. D. Rogers, Springfield, Ill.; H. city; B. D. Rogers, Springfield, Ill.; H. C. Ridglev, Springfield, Ill.; W. B. Ingham, Salem, N. J.; K. L. Hill, Darlington, S. C.; E. V. Rinehard, Baltimore, Md.; Jerry Witt, Mount Ida, Ark.; E. L. Anderson, Grosseville, Mich.; John W. Phillip, at large; Harry Lyon, Maine, Senatorial; R. L. Jurney, Waco, Tex.; John I. Adems, South Evansville, Pa.; John I. Adems, South Evansville, Pa.; Jorrance D. Snapp, Joliet, Ill.; W. T. Truxton, Norfolk, Va.; C. E. Montgomery, Elizabethtown, Ky.; J. H. McCool, Walla Walla, Wash.; Carl Barnes, Bullochville, Ga.; R. W. Mooney, New York city; F. B. Moore, Helena, Ark.; W. R. Purnell, Bowling Green, Mo., and F. T. Van Auken, Plainfield, N. J.

THE PERSONAL SIDE

QUESTIONED TAFT'S DIGESTION. , ROUSED MR. CHIPMAN.

"How is your digestion? Is your stomach weak? Does it subject you to inconvenience and distress by day, and in the "street," and in the brokers' disturb your rest by night? Does indi-

Secretary Taft in the first letter he received after entering upon his duties as head of the War Department. The questions were clipped from a news- & Co., to a few men gathered in his F paper advertisement, and beneath them was the picture of an ins

tanf.
The following note accompanied the

"To the Secretary of War.
"Sir: The inclosed questions are addressed to your conscience as a public officer. Unless you can answer them in the negative you should immediately resign. From A Common or Garden Law-

The handwriting was that of Secre

"PAP" TAFT WAS KIND.

"Pap" Taft was the nickname Department of Justice employes gave to Alphonso Taft when he was serving as second Administration. This name wa given to Mr. Taft because he was so kind to all persons who worked under

"He was the most feeling man who has been at the head of the department," a messenger at the Department of Justice said, in describing the father of the present Secretary of War. "He was much like his son, Judge Taft.

The Tafts have the faculty of seeing the bright side of everything." When Mr. Taft was Attorney Gen-eral the Department of Justice occupled the Freedman's Bank building, which stood on a site on Pennsylvania Avenue west of the building now occu-pled by the Riggs Bank.

OUT-TALKED CLUB WOMAN.

Lafe Young, editor of the "Des Moines Capital," who was among the prominent joys the distinction of having out-talked penniless musicians.

located on a river front site and half tracted notice.
a dozen other sites had warm advocates. In the recent illness of Secretary Hay The Des Moines Woman's Club was it was necessary to establish a lackey much interested in the location of the on guard to "shoo" the musicians elsc-new building and held a meeting to discuss the subject. Mr. Young attended small change was also necessary.

When the discussion began Mr. Young asked to be allowed to speak and began an earnest argument in favor of the river front location. A little woman who favored another site objected to having Mr. Young speak and offered motions that he be asked to desist. Madame President was much confused, but Mr. Year flats.

To all applicants for these apartments.

To all applicants for these apartments. Young was not ruffled in the least and lept on talking so fact the little wo-

market. On the floor of the exchange gestion acquaint you with the horrors about in a sleepy manner and took little of indigestion?" These questions were propounded to at long intervals. There was absolutely nothing doing.

"Haven't had a single order today. said G. B. Chipman, of E. R. Chapmar

"Not likely to, either, in this market," said one of the customers. Had it not been for the noises street, the entire party would have probably journeyed into the land of Nod. The board boy had been asleep for half an hour after posting the last quo-

tation Brrr-rr-r-r went the telephone. "Guess that's an order for 2,000 shares," he said with a smile as he

walked toward the 'phone.

A moment later the men in the office were startled to hear a conversation in the telephone box. Mr. Chipman was talking in a loud voice, and when he

came out he said: 'Got an order for 2,000 shares of Steel," A few ticks of the transmitter, and the order was on the New York exchange. Pretty soon the ticker buzzed, and a uotation in Steel appeared.

The remarkable prediction excited Mr. Chipman so that he could not continue his sleep.

MUSIC FOR MR. HAY.

One of the official residences in Washington which is especially plagued by street organ grinders is that of Secretary Hay. Scarcely an evening passes that one of these industrious musicians (?) does not plant himself in front of the residence of the Secretary of State and there disturb the quiet of the night by the shrill pipings and harsh jingling which emanates from his

The Italian organ grinders who came to Washington hold a traditional belief newspaper men who attended the meet- that the Secretary of State is the agent ing of the National Republican Editorial of the Government duly authorized for Association in this city last week, ena club woman, a club woman of club the grinders have such distinctly American airs as "Yankee Doodle" in their Des Moines was about to locate a new repertoire, and it is this that they will library. Mr. Young wanted it grind out patiently until they have at-

LEAP YEAR FLATS.

Edward Beall, an enterprising and patriotic citizen of Alton, fil., is at present engaged in building flats which will be fitted up with all modern con-veniences for housekeeping. When com-pleted they will be known as the Leap

man and her supporters finally had to sit down and allow him to finish his speech.

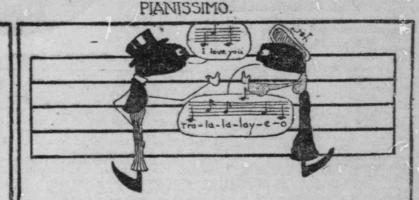
A vote was then taken and the river front won. The question was then submitted to a popular vote and Mr. Young's site was selected, and is now the location of the Des Moines Public Library.

Mr. Beall has but one answer to make. The buildings, he says, are not intended to the says,

GRAND OPERA

BEGINUENDO









CRESCENDO



"You seem to enjoy watching the ticker. I didn't know you had any money invested."

"I haven't. I'm just figuring out how much I saved by losing all I had last



Gayboy-I hear that Outlate has resigned from the club. What was the

wife dropped in last week, and that stupid clerk told her that Outlate had not been at the club in two months. | ers."



"Carry your grip, boss?" "Not much! I ain't a-goin' to trust

Singleton-Why, yes. You see, his you with that valuable gold brick I jest bought. I've heard of you bunco steer- start housekeeping with?



WELL FIXED.

Ethel-So they got married, die they? Well, what did they have to

Algy-Oh, a couple of good appetites.